

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00577 182348Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /009 W

-----190002 103545 /61

O 182045Z FEB 77

FM EMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3681

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0577

STADIS//////////

FOR AMB SEELYE (AF)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJ: TRAVEL AMBASSADOR SEELYE

1. HAVE JUST BEEN TOLD (TEN P.M. LOCAL) BY FONOFF USEC OSMAN THAT FONMIN MANSUR KHALID HAD ASKED HIM INFORM ME TOMORROW, SATURDAY, THAT IT WOULD BE GREATLY PREFERRED IF YOU COULD POSTPONE YOUR TRIP HERE. SADAT/ASSAD/NIMEIRI "SUMMIT" IS DEFINITELY ON FOR FEB. 27 AND OSMAN WAS UNCLEAR HOW LONG IT MIGHT LAST OR WHETHER THERE MIGHT BE FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, BOTH NIMEIRI AND KHALID WOULD BE HEAVILY ENGAGED DURING DAYS YOU PLANNED BE HERE. I NOTED YOUR SCHEDULE INVOLVED MANY STOPS AND RESCHEDULING KHARTOUM FOR LATER MIGHT PROVE IMPOSSIBLE. IN THAT CASE, I WONDERED IF GOS WOULD OBJECT TO YOUR ARRIVING ON DATES INDICATED, EVEN THOUGH SENIOR OFFICIALS MIGHT UNDERSTAND-ABLY BE UNAVAILABLE. OSMAN INDICATED HE THOUGHT PREFERENCE WAS FOR DEFERRAL YOUR DATES HERE.

2. COMMENT: WITH DENG HAVING JUST LEFT FOR NEW YORK, AND BONA MALWAL OFF FOR LOME FEB 21, NIMEIRI AND KHALID ARE ONLY ONES WHO COUNT HERE AT MOMENT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS FIELD. OSMAN IS NEW AND LITTLE

MORE THAN STAFF MAN. NIMEIRI HAS BEEN TIRED (HE CANCELLED HIS
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ENGAGEMENTS FOR TWO DAYS EARLY IN WEEK) AND KHALID IS JUST BACK FROM MAJOR FIVE-DAY MISSION TO RIYADH. THEIR PREFERENCE FOR DEFERRAL THUS UNDERSTANDABLE EVEN THOUGH WE CANNOT RULE OUT THAT THEY ALSO WOULD NOT WISH THEIR NON-ALIGNED CREDENTIALS BE CALLED INTO QUESTION BY ARRIVAL SENIOR USG OFFICIAL ON EVE THEIR CHERISHED "SUMMIT". I WILL SEEK CLARIFY TOMORROW WHETHER KHALID WOULD OBJECT YOUR COMING AS PLANNED FOR CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY

BUT MEANWHILE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE AS TO
WHETHER YOU COULD IN FACT MODIFY YOUR SCHEDULE AT THIS LATE DATE.
NIMEIRI WILL BE IN WEST SUDAN FEB 24 AND IN JUBA MARCH 2-3-4.

3. IN EVENT YOU UNABLE MAKE IT HERE, WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY
MEET YOU SOMEWHERE ON YOUR ITINERARY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS HERE. APPRECIATE URGENT RESPONSE. BREWER

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Message Attributes

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